GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1488
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015
DEVICES LYING UNUSED
Patel Shri Prahlad Singh

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Calandria Vault of Rawatbhata Atomic Power plant has been lying unused for the last six months as reported in the media;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken against the responsible persons in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (Dr. JITENDRA SINGH) :

(a) No sir. The Calandria Vault is a concrete structure with stainless steel liner for housing the calandria vessel and the end shields (reactor components). It is located inside the Reactor Building of a Nuclear Power Plant. Readiness of Calandria Vault is only an intermediate step towards completion of construction of a nuclear power plant. After completion of civil construction, several activities are to be completed before housing the calandria and end-shield and the associated piping like installation of stainless steel plate liner, installation of support structures, etc.

Status of the Calandria Vault for RAPP Unit − 7: The Calandria vessel and End Shields have already been received at site for Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Unit 7 (RAPP−7). The Calandria Vault of Unit - 7 was under the aforementioned preparatory activities which have since been completed. The application for obtaining clearance by the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) is under review. The Calandria vessel and End Shields will be installed after accord of clearance by AERB as per the procedure. Status of the Calandria Vault for RAPP Unit − 8:

The Calandria Vault of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project Unit 8 (RAPP-8) is currently under final stages of civil construction and subsequent preparatory works for receiving the equipment (Calandria vessel, End Shields and other reactor components).

(b) There was a report in one of the Rajasthan (Hindi edition) daily newspaper on January 5, 2015 reporting that the Calandria vessel for second unit (RAPP-8), under transportation, parked outside the plant boundary in a safe and a secured manner. This was due to the dispute between equipment manufacturer and their transport sub-contractor, which has caused temporary impasse to move the vessel inside the project location for some time. Due to subsequent arbitration the impasse has been cleared and the Calandria vessel has been shifted inside the project premises. In view of the status of Calandria Vault as above and calandria vessel received at site, the project schedule has not been affected due to this incident.

(c)&(d) Does not arise in view of what is stated in (a) and (b) above.